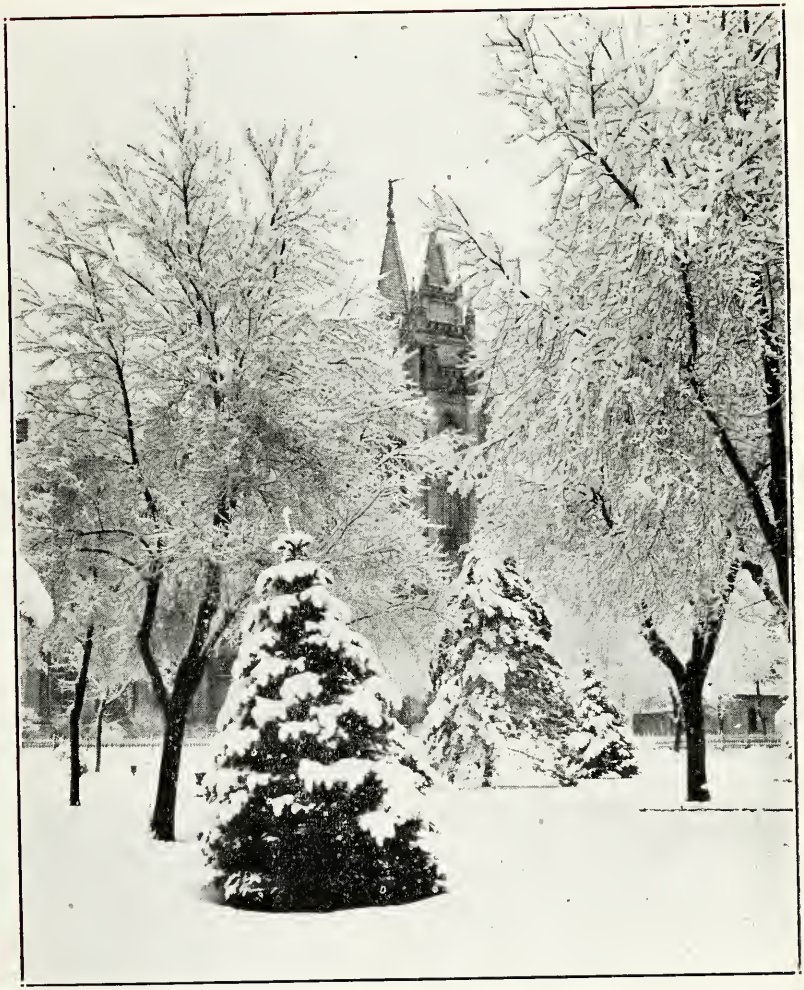
Millennial Star



Vol. 104, No 50 Thursday, December 10, 1912

AUXILIARY ISSUE

POETRY

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH

Under the spreading chestnut tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and long;
His face is like the tan;
His brow is wet with honest sweat,
He earns whate'er he can,
And he looks the whole world in the face,
For he owes not any man.

He goes on Sunday to the church,
And sits among his boys;
He hears the parson pray and preach.
He hears his daughter's voice
Singing in the village choir,
And it makes his heart rejoice.

It sounds to him like her mother's voice
Singing in paradise!
He needs must think of her once more,
How in the grave she lies;
And with his hard, rough hand he wipes
A tear out of his eyes.

Toiling, rejoicing, sorrowing,
Onward through life he goes;
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou hast taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortunes must be wrought;
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought.

—H. W. Longfellow.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

The mind ought sometimes to be diverted,
that it may return the better to thinking.

—Phoedrus.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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That which is of God is light; and he that receiveth light and continueth in God, receiveth more light, and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day.

—*Doctrine and Covenants 50: 24.*

★

I LOVE SUCH MIRTH AS DOES NOT MAKE FRIENDS ASHAMED TO LOOK UPON ONE ANOTHER NEXT MORNING; OR MEN, THAT CANNOT WELL BEAR IT, TO REPENT IN THE MONEY THEY SPEND WHEN THEY BE WARMED WITH DRINK; AND TAKE THIS FOR A RULE, YOU MAY PICK OUT SUCH TIMES AND SUCH COMPANIES, THAT YOU MAY MAKE YOURSELF MERRIER FOR A LITTLE THAN A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY; FOR "'TIS THE COMPANY AND NOT THE CHARGE THAT MAKES THE FEAST."—Izaak Walton.

★

THIS WEEK'S COVER.

No matter what the Season of the year, Nature is always beautiful as this scene demonstrates. Beautiful, because all things beautiful emanate from God, the Father of all life on earth.

"Seek Ye First"—

By President David O. McKay

(Continued from issue No. 48, Vol. 104, Thursday, Nov. 26, 1942.)

WAR, THE RESULT OF JUNGLE LAW

CRITICS say that man is a mere animal, doing as he desires, subject only to the limitations of his power. Therefore, a society dominated by enlightened altruism or the intelligent love of humanity is improbable, if not impossible.

The present condition in the world confirms these critics' views. It seems that those who are riding the whirlwind of destruction in Europe have denounced the Christ and His Gospel of Love, and are attempting to live by the law of the jungle—kill or be killed, devour or be devoured.

As a consequence, the world to-day is literally a bloody battlefield. More than fifty million men armed for deadly conflict! Why? Because men seek **first** their own selfish aims —seek **first** the subjugation of others—seek **first** aggrandisement and domination. I know some will say the cause of this conflict is not so simple as that. The seeds of this war, they maintain, were sown in the peace treaty of 1918. The roots of this war, like the Russian thistle, spread even into earlier conflicts.

I answer, that is true. But the source of it all lies in the dominating thoughts harboured by rulers and leaders who rejected the Kingdom of God and sought **first, personal** and **national gain** at the cost of subjugation and, if necessary, the extermination of other persons and nations.

EVIL OF FALSE IDEAS

Poison gas is a diabolical agency of destruction. So are poisoned ideas! "These," recently wrote a leading columnist, "are the greatest menace in the world to-day." The nature of these poisoned ideas may be gleaned from the following extract:—

"A hundred and fifty million Russians have been told over and over that an Armageddon is coming in which world capitalism will confront world communism, and communism will survive. Sixty-five million Germans are being told that cannons are more precious than butter, that war is natural and inevitable, and that the German people are destined to expand and to change the character of the earth. Forty million Italians are trained to despise peace and to glory in war, and all of young Japan is brought up to admire the warrior as the highest type of citizen.

"I have seen a German Youth Camp, housing six thousand children around the age of ten, displaying in tree-high letters, 'You were born to die for Germany.' I have seen babies of six and seven, black-shirted and belted, march in Italy in military drill. I have seen children in Russian kindergartens taught how

to adjust gas masks and the strategy of trench war-fare. . . .

"To-day in Germany the winner of the last Nobel Peace Prize is considered a traitor, and to attend any peace meeting would make one a candidate for a concentration camp."

Since human history began it seems that the majority of the millions of the earth's inhabitants have sought first the law of indulgence and conquests rather than the ideals of tolerance and human sympathy. As a consequence poverty, suffering, cruelty and crime, treachery and war, have continually afflicted the human race. So it is in the present age. Nations are grappling at one another's throats in a death struggle. Millions of persons lie dead, wounded and unaccounted for. Homes are blown to splinters, and their occupants left to wander helplessly and aimlessly, facing starvation and death. Men defeated are compelled to labour for their conquerors. Nations once free have lost their independence. Millions of people have surrendered all guarantees of personal liberty. Art galleries, monuments, historic buildings, and cities containing treasures of untold value to humanity are being ruthlessly destroyed. The holocaust of war continues and innocent men, women, and children are being maimed, mangled, and murdered. For the time being Satan himself rides in the saddle. The law of the jungle is the only force recognised. Deception and treachery are rampant.

The following, written before World War One by Dr. Charles A. Elwood, is almost prophetic:—

"The dangerous situation in which our particular civilisation finds itself at the present moment must now be manifest. Our material culture has advanced by leaps and bounds until we find almost unlimited physical power in our hands; but our spiritual culture has lagged, and we find many of the traditions of barbarism still strong among us, especially the traditions of war and self-indulgence at the expense of others. These traditions, along with the ignorance and paganism of the masses of mankind, make our world, we must acknowledge, a veritable powder-house at the present time. Almost any powerful group foolish enough to do so could explode it. If Western civilisation emerges from this situation safely, it will only be through a deeper appreciation of the social ethics of Jesus than it has yet shown."

As I have said on another occasion, merely an **appreciation** of the social ethics of Jesus is not sufficient. **Men's hearts must be changed.** Instead of selfishness, men must be willing to dedicate their abilities, their possessions, their lives, if necessary, to the alleviation of the ills of mankind. Hate must be supplanted by sympathy and forebearance.

Charles A. Elwood continues: If we blunderingly persist in building our civilisation upon the self-interest of the individual, or even upon the selfish interests of classes or national groups, then we may be sure that it is built upon the sand and that some other civilisation than ours will profit by our mistake.

"If we do not want some such calamity as this to befall us, then our churches must speedily transform themselves into

educational institutions to educate the young and also adults into Christ's way of life. . . . This means not only teaching Christ, but fearlessly applying His ethics to every problem that perplexes men in their individual or group relations. It means that the chief work of the Church is to create a Christian conscience in both adults and the young regarding the problems of human life. Our whole culture must be brought under critical scrutiny in order to discriminate in it the pagan from the Christian elements. This must especially be done in the religious education of the young; for the young are not equipped to discriminate the pagan from the Christian elements in our civilisation; and in that way the hold of Christian ideals upon them is weakened. The Church must particularly devote itself to the education of the nobler emotions, the development of pity, sympathy, and love, not limited by the barriers of class, nation, or race, but as wide as humanity itself. But above all, it must present Christ Himself as the ideal and as the Saviour of mankind.

" Now if we can have such a Church constructively dominant in our society, I see no reason why our civilisation should perish. Our civilisation is imperilled to-day simply because it is ill-balanced. Our spiritual culture lags so far behind our material culture in its development that we have no adequate control over the latter. Our science, our education, and our government can do much to help correct this lag in our spiritual development. But in the main this must be done, if done at all, by religion and by the Church. For religion is the creator and the conservator of our social ideals; and the Church is their chief propagator. The Church in this sense is the spiritual power in our society, while the Christian Church is the only institution that is specifically devoted to the realisation of Christian ideals. Insofar as the Church is inefficient the whole spiritual life of human society must suffer and the destiny of civilisation be imperilled. Science, intellectual education, and government are not enough, for the simple reason that human society requires something more for its welfare than intelligence and coercive authority; that something more is genuine, active good will among its individuals and groups."

Dr. Elwood concludes by saying: " Such a church may never arrive. But, if not, the cause of Christ will perish from the earth, and with it the civilisation which has fostered us."

I trust that you have a firm conviction, as I have, that this Church has already arrived, and is spreading its influence in the earth. It was organised on April 6, 1830, and designated the Church of Jesus Christ. Its paramount aim is the establishing of the Kingdom of God among men. It is, to apply the words of Dr. Elwood, the light of truth breaking everywhere in our world; and this light cannot fail to reveal to men, sooner or later, the divine ideal by which they should live.

Seek ye **first** the treasures of Truth. Cherish the principles of the Restored Gospel—let the standards, of the Church be your daily guide, and I promise you that joy and peace will be your compensatory reward.

Our Missionaries' Page

WE are happy to be able to devote this page in the "Star" to the work of our Missionaries in the British Mission. Although most of our members, engaged in part-time missionary work, are working long hours on work of national importance, they still manage to send in their reports containing very inspiring incidents and information. To all those who are not reporting at least once a month, we wish to commend the Counsel of the Lord:

> "Therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve Him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day."
>
> —D. and C. 4: 2.

Do not underestimate the meaning of these words: They are the Lord's.

Reports from the Field:

Arranged a cottage meeting at Sister Ralph's. The friend visited accepts all I teach her and is writing letters to her son in Ceylon about our doctrines. She greatly desires that my son, who is in Ceylon, should meet her son and discuss our religion. We are trying to arrange this meeting.—M. A. Hawkes, North London.

Had two interesting Gospel conversations with a Roman Catholic, in which I presented many Gospel doctrines. They were very interested, and I hope to have the opportunity of explaining still more truths at a later date. The other conversation was held with a young lady who had begun to be interested in spiritualism. I explained many principles to her and she seemed quite impressed. I feel that our conversation left a very favourable impression on her mind.—Yvonne Skelcher, Brighton.

Visited friends in Cumberland while on holiday. No branch there, but we enjoyed a long discussion on the Church.—Doris M. Allison, Liverpool.

Loaned Brigham Young, gave a Book of Mormon and obtained a "Star" Subscription from Mr. Williams, of 121a, Earle Street, Earlestown. He and his wife are very interested; have arranged for a Lantern Lecture in their home.—Clifford Hartley, Wigan.

One Gospel conversation with Doctor. Discussed health laws, etc. He was in agreement that they were beneficial. He, however, thinks cocoa is just as harmful as tea or coffee inasmuch as it contains theobromine—a drug of the same group as tannin and caffeine. If we, therefore, think cocoa all right—why not tea and coffee? Your remarks thereon would be appreciated.—Marjorie Cuthbertson, Sunderland.
(See "Star," No. 35, August 27, 1942.)

WE WILL BUILD UP THE BRITISH MISSION OF THE CHURCH THROUGH OUR SERVICE, SACRIFICE AND SUPPORT.

—A. K. A.

The Fulness Of Times

(Continued from Vol. 104, No. 46: Thursday, November 12, 1942.)

SCENE III.

NARRATIVE.

Consequently, on the sixth day of April, 1830, there gathered together in the house of David Whitmer in Fayette, a number of earnest young men, and their friends.

Joseph Smith: Having offered up prayer, and hymns of praise to our Heavenly Father, it is now fitting that we proceed to the purpose of our gathering here to-day. But first I would like to call the roll of those present, who have been chosen from those who have been baptised, for you are the ones divinely authorised to organise this day the true Church of Jesus Christ here in America. Will you please answer "Present" when I call your name. Oliver Cowdery.

Oliver Cowdery: Present.

Joseph Smith: Hyrum Smith.

Hyrum Smith: Present.

Joseph Smith: Peter Whitmer Junior.

Peter Whitmer Jun.: Present.

Joseph Smith: Samuel H. Smith.

Samuel H. Smith: Present.

Joseph Smith: David Whitmer.

David Whitmer: Present.

Joseph Smith: Now before we proceed with the obligations of organisation, I would like to establish a custom of common consent by the people, that no leader shall be appointed in this Church except by the vote of the majority of the members. God has directed me to bring forth the Book of Mormon, and to bind together the lost and strayed of the House of Israel, unto his coming in the Last Days. Therefore, I wish to know if you do accept me, Joseph Smith Junior, and Oliver Cowdery, as teachers and Elders in the things of the Kingdom of God.

All: Yea.

Joseph Smith: Then let us sing again "How Firm a Foundation," and then go on with the meeting and proceed with the solemn ordination of the officers of the Church.

SCENE IV.

NARRATIVE.

Thus was regularly organised and established the Church of Jesus Christ in this dispensation. The designation "of Latter-day Saints" was added some time later. With this inauguration of the Church were also introduced two great principles. First reliance on the express mind and will of God, through revelation; and second, the democratic principle of the common consent of the people in matters of leadership. Once established, the Church began to grow in power and membership, and Joseph recognised that the time had come for the widespread propagation of the Restored Gospel.

THUS LATER:

Oliver Cowdery: The work of the Church is well begun, Joseph. Enquiries are being made regarding the organisation daily, and many have asked to be baptised. Oh, it's a time of rejoicing, Joseph.

Joseph Smith: It is God's work, Oliver. . . . But now that the book on which we laboured so faithfully is published, we must get it into the hands of the people. Our young men must go out and distribute it in village and hamlet throughout the land.

Entrance of Samuel Smith.

Joseph Smith: Oh, is that you, Samuel.

Samuel Smith: Yes, Joseph, I wanted to see you before you left. No doubt you have a message for our father and mother in Palmyra. Also, I wanted to know if there wasn't something I could do to help Mr. Cowdery here. Or some special work for me, which would further the Cause.

Joseph Smith: There is, my good brother Samuel. You can start out and sell the Book of Mormon in our neighbouring towns. That will do more than anything to help spread the glad tidings.

Samuel Smith: That will be work to my liking. I shall start at once, Joseph.

Samuel goes home immediately and prepares for his new task.

Mrs. Smith: Why, Samuel, What are you doing? Why have you taken out your knapsack? Are you going away again so soon. Father may need you on the farm.

Samuel Smith: Yes, Mother. I am going to see what I can do to distribute the Book and spread the Gospel. Joseph has commanded me to go in God's name. Do you not recall what Joseph said to Father in the field that day, the day of the Revelation? There is a greater harvest than this.

Mrs. Smith: But Samuel, Son, you have never been any great distance from home. Besides, you have no money for such a trip.

Samuel Smith: Oh, I shall get along; like the apostles of old, I shall take neither purse nor script, and, like them, I have the assurance that the Lord will provide for those who do this work. The book will attract interest, and do good once the word is talked about.

Mrs. Smith: I shall pray for you, in that, Son. But where are you going?

Samuel Smith: First I shall go to Bavonia; if I have success I shall go farther.

Mrs. Smith: You are taking too many books. The pack will be very heavy.

Samuel Smith: Oh, I trust it will be lighter before long. Goodbye, Mother.

Mrs. Smith: God be with you, son. Bless you. I shall pray for you and your work every minute, while you are away.

(To be continued)

The Latter-Day Saints' "Millennial Star"

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1942

EDITORIAL

Forward !

I WRITE this article hot upon the heels (expressive phrase) of an impression I gained but a few hours since, which. nevertheless, was indeed, a forcible impression

Let me tell you.

Glancing through a weekly magazine, I scanned an article about Girls' Youth Organisations. It told of the facilities offered by certain prominent female societies to train girls and fit them for military or civilian service, in some way, that would be most useful to the State under present conditions. The part of the article that made me really think was a list of Womens' Organisations and a statement of their pledges or creeds, or whatever they may be called.

Readers! and "Latter-day Saints" readers particularly, I want to tell you that I feel convinced that **the Gleaner prayer and the M. Men pledge and the Spirit of the Hive are expressions of higher ideals than any others of which I know.** They are vital; they are inspiring, because they are inspired. I do not desire to deprecate in any measure the fine work that is done by well-known youth organisations. What I wish to emphasise is that **our M.I.A. organisation is worthy of recognition on a level with any of the finest in the land to-day.**

How to go about achieving such recognition? I agree. That is our problem. Let us see what we can do.

Further to my statement concerning the excellence of our own organisation: It should be remembered that we are mem-

bers of the true Church of God, that our leaders past and present have been and are instruments of revelation direct from God. Our Auxiliary Organisations have been established by those leaders, and without doubt, **the establishment of those organisations has been under the guidance of God, our Eternal Father.**

Unquestionably, therefore, there can be nothing to excel them as recreational guidance groups.

Reverting to the problem of our task, I am fully aware that the atmosphere of religion which must attach itself to our organisation is frightening, and difficult for our friends to comprehend. They can never understand, for instance, why we should open a social evening with prayer. If we can help them to overcome that difficult antipathy to anything which smacks of ritual I am sure that they will be impressed with the fine, clean fun experienced at our functions, at the excellence of our text-warm sociability prevalent, and the soundness of the everyday philosophy we teach in our classes.

The question now is "What sort of a job are we making of these groups in our charge?" Are we content to attend once a week, or fitfully, perhaps, the same few of us, to sit and discuss together for an hour, discarding the rest of the prescribed programme as "too much for us." If so, we are not fulfilling the purpose of the organisation we represent. **I am convinced of the power of M.I.A. to convert people to the Gospel.** I have seen results which justify my convictions. I am proud of my membership in such an organisation and I think often of the M. Men Pledge. It is a searchlight on my conscience.

Do you feel the same?

I do not suggest that you do anything which is, in any way, apart from the outlined course published by the leaders of our organisation; but I **do** suggest that you follow that course as closely as is conditionally possible, and that you seek to obtain local recognition for your group.

If you do, it will carry responsibilities. The world is critical and judges according to its own standards. Our task is to show the world standards of a superlative nature. Can it be done? Why not?

Begin within, and extend to without.

Forward then! and make the rafters ring with

"OUR M.I.A. LEADS ON."

J. P. H.

Faith Promoting Instances In The Lives Of The Members Of The British Mission

"MY DAD FASTED FOR TWENTY-ONE DAYS . . ."

WHEN I was a young lad, President John A. Widtsoe gave me a blessing in which it was said, among other things, that if I kept the commandments and laws of God and lived the Word of Wisdom, I should grow up and be a strong, healthy man. Shortly afterwards I was admitted into hospital with a diseased bone in my left leg. After two operations the infection continued to creep up my leg almost to the thigh. The doctor decided to stop the infection by another operation, which left a huge open gash at the back of my leg. I felt more feeble after this operation than after the first two and knew that something was wrong. Meanwhile my parents received word from the Matron that my case was very serious, but some hope was expressed that if the haemorrhage did not occur within ten days, there was a good chance of saving my leg, otherwise—an amputation.

Sunday noon two days after my third operation, my eyes began to blur, and my arms and body ached. Presently I felt something warm running round my legs. Throwing the bedclothes back, I found myself lying in a pool of blood. A lad in the next bed called the nurse, she called the sister and the next thing I remembered being given blood transfusion in the operating theatre My leg was amputated and for days I felt ill and very weak and suffered continuous agonising pain.

My father called in the District President and travelling Elders who thought there was very little hope of recovery after they beheld my condition. I was administered to and my Dad, remembering the words of Apostle Widtsoe, fasted for twenty-one days in supplication and prayer to the Lord for my recovery.

At the end of those long, weary days of anxiety and anguish of my father, tears and prayers and pleading unto the Lord, I felt the strength returning to me; my body began to heal up and the day came when I emerged from the hospital with a new lease of life. I was nine years old then.

At the age of 15 I captained our school's second XI. cricket team, moving into the first XI. at the end of that season. I am almost twenty now, and at the beginning of 1942 I was called on a short-term full-time mission. I have mastered my handicap, and enjoy good health continuously.

SYLVESTER HUBERT DALE.

On November 12 the Mission Genealogical Board was enlarged by the calling of Elder John F. Cook to serve as a member. Our new member brings a wealth of experience in practical research work as one of his many accomplishments. The Mission Presidency and members of the Board extend their best wishes for the future success of our fellow-worker.

AUXILIARY SECTION

PRIESTHOOD

Under the Direction of the Mission Presidency.

THE KEYS OF THE PRIESTHOOD.

The Priesthood in general is the authority given to man to act for God. Every man ordained to any degree of the Priesthood has this authority delegated to him.

But it is necessary that every act performed under this authority shall be done at the proper time and place, in the proper way, and after the proper order. The power of directing these labours constitutes the keys of the Priesthood. In their fulness, the keys are held by only one person at a time, the Prophet and President of the Church. He may delegate any portion of the power to another, in which case that person holds the keys of that particular labour. Thus, the President of a temple, the President of a stake, the Bishop of a ward, the President of a mission, the President of a Quorum, each holds the keys of the labours performed in that particular body or locality. His Priesthood is not increased by this special appointment, for a Seventy who presides over a mission has no more Priesthood than a Seventy who labours under his direction; and the President of an Elders quorum, for example, has no more Priesthood than any member of that quorum. But he holds the power of directing the official labours performed in the mission or the quorum, or in other words, the keys of that division of work. So it is throughout all the ramifications of the Priesthood—a distinction must be carefully made between the general authority, and the directing of the labours performed by that authority.

MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD OUTLINE OF STUDY FOR JANUARY, 1943

Text: Priesthood and Church Government.

The following outlines indicate what material should be studied each week during the month of January. Note: Only three lessons are given each month. (On other Sundays in the month, time may be given to dealing with living needs of the Branch and Priesthood.) Class leaders should present the text covered by these lessons at the Monthly Union (or in some cases District Priesthood meetings) on the last Saturday of each month.

Lesson XXXVII. Some Principles of Church Government, continued. (Chap. 16, pp. 198-202.)

Lesson XXXVIII. Some Principles of Church Government continued. (Chap. 16, pp. 202-206.)

Lesson XXXIX. Some Principles of Church Government, continued. (Chap. 16, pp. 206-210.)

THE SIX VITAL QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE SONS OF MOSES AND OF AARON

1. Do you keep the Sabbath day holy?
2. Do you pray night and morning?
3. Do you attend the Sacrament Services and renew your covenants worthily?
5. Do you keep the Word of Wisdom?
6. Do you pay honest Tithing and Fast Offerings?

"BEHOLD, THIS IS YOUR WORK, TO KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT, MIND AND STRENGTH."—Doc. & Cov. 11: 20.

HOME MISSIONARIES—TEACHERS

Every Home Missionary is assigned by the Mission Presidency to undertake the work of Branch Teachers while visiting the members and friends of the Church in the British Mission. The visits will, as usual, be assigned by the Branch Presidents or H.M. Supervisors.

MESSAGE FOR JANUARY, 1943

LATTER-DAY SAINTS, PRAY MORE OFTEN WITH GREATER SINCERITY

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."—James 5: 16.

"But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathens do; for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking; for your Father knows what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him."—Matt. 6: 8.

This prayer is contained in the Message of the First Presidency uttered at the General Conference held in Salt Lake City, October 3-4, 1942.

INVOCATION

Our Heavenly Father:

In deep humility, we **Thy** people, **Israel** of to-day, come to Thy throne pleading for Thy grace and Thy mercy. Forgive what Thou hast seen amiss in us, overlook our waywardness, keep not in mind our lightmindedness and our forgetfulness of our debt to Thee for all we have and are, but hold in memory our desire to serve Thee and to keep commandments, and increase these to us from day to day. Let nothing be betwixt us and Thee at this hour. And standing thus, our Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee speedily to work out Thy purposes in the earth. Bring quickly to those against whom Thy righteous anger has gone forth because of their iniquityy, a sense of their sins and great guilt, and plant in their hearts a will to repent and hereafter to walk in Thy paths, guided only by Thy commandments, that, Thy purposes accomplished, peace, Thy peace and the peace of man, may return to bless the earth.

Stay the hands, O Father, of the Destroyer. Let him not further curse the world with the slaughter of Thy children, nor pour out upon them a fuller measure of the sore afflictions of famine, plague, and pestilence. We know what Thou hast decreed against a sinning world, but we humbly bow at Thy throne and with our whole hearts we pray Thee that, as seemeth to Thee well, in Thy infinite knowledge and wisdom, Thou wilt abate Thy righteous indignation, take away from the full measure of Thy punishments, hasten the carrying out of Thy purpose, shorten these days of world tribulation.

We know how we Thy children have erred, we know how we have failed to live the lives Thou has marked out for us, but at this time, O Father, we humbly pray that Thou wilt close Thine eyes to our misdoings and recall not our frailties, nor withhold forgiveness for our transgressions; but grant us this, our prayer, for the speedy fulfilment of Thy purposes, that peace may come, that the cries of a wailing world may no longer afflict Thine ears, and that Thy people may again go forward in their work of spreading Thy Gospel and bringing salvation to the honest in heart.

Bless the needy, the sick, the world over, make easy the pains of the innocent and righteous ones who have been torn by war, comfort the mothers, the widows, the fatherless. Be merciful to all who suffer in mind or body or spirit.

For Thy boundless mercies to us we are humbly grateful. Lead us day by day so to live as to be more worthy of Thy manifold blessings, without which we should perish.

Grant us these blessings, O Father, for we ask them humbly in the name of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, Amen.

RELIEF SOCIETY

President - - - - - - Sister Marie W. Anastasiou
First Counsellor - - - - - - - Sister Helen E. Poole
Second Counsellor - - - - - Sister Maud A. Hawkes
Secretary - - - - - - - - - Sister Miriam Mann

RELIEF SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORTS.—Please note correction. These reports are required at the Mission Office not later than **January 10, 1943.** Two copies of the Annual Report will be sent to each branch. Both should be filled out by the Relief Society Secretary, checked and **signed by the Branch Relief Society Presidency.** Both copies should be signed and returned to the Mission Office; one of these, after checking, will be sent to the Branch Relief Society secretary, who is to copy the checked report into the Annual Report in the back of the Relief Society Record of the branch. FULL INSTRUCTIONS ARE PRINTED ON THE REPORT FORMS AND ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE BRANCH R.S. RECORD.

ANNUAL DUES, OCTOBER 1, 1942, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1943.—So far very few branches have sent their Annual Relief Society Dues. District R.S. Supervisors and Branch R.S. Presidents, the Mission Board will be glad to have you give special attention to this phase of our organisation. NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS ARE READY TO BE SENT FOR ALL DUES RECEIVED.

Where the members are unwilling or unable to pay the annual dues after earnest solicitation on the part of the R.S. Officers, the Branch R.S. should make up the amount from the General Fund and notify the individual of this action.

DISTRICT RELIEF SOCIETY SUPERVISORS.—The minutes of each Relief Society begin in January and end in December of each year; therefore each branch will need a new R.S. Roll and Record Book for the 1st of January, 1943. PLEASE ARRANGE TO ORDER YOUR REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR DISTRICT N O W. Price 2s. 6d. per copy, post free.

PLEASE GIVE ASSISTANCE WHERE YOU CAN TO CHECK THE RECORD BOOKS BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

INADVERTENTLY ONLY ONE COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR EACH BRANCH HAS BEEN SENT. SECOND COPY IS IN THE POST NOW. PLEASE REFER TO THE FIRST PARAGRAPH ABOVE.

RELIEF SOCIETY MAGAZINES. GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS. IT WOULD APPEAR, HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED. TO SECURE R.S. MAGAZINES, PLEASE SEND 4s. FOR EACH SUBSCRIPTION TO THE MISSION OFFICE.

"WITH CHARITY AS OUR WATCHWORD, WE PLEDGE OURSELVES IN LOYAL SUPPORT TO BUILD UP THE RELIEF SOCIETIES OF THE BRITISH MISSION."

BRITISH MISSION RELIEF SOCIETY BOARD.

★

I EXPECT TO PASS THROUGH THIS LIFE BUT ONCE. IF THEREFORE THERE IS ANY KINDNESS I CAN SHOW, OR ANY GOOD I CAN DO TO ANY FELLOW BEING, LET ME DO IT NOW; LET ME NOT DEFER OR NEGLECT IT, FOR I SHALL NOT PASS THIS WAY AGAIN.

—A. B. HEGEMAN.

GENEALOGY

Chairman - - - - - - Elder James R. Cunningham
Assistants - - - - - - - - Elder Ira Wm. Mount
Sister Catherine L. M. Horner
Sister Hilda M. Woodford

After much thought and consideration of various factors, the Mission Genealogical Board recommend that the Genealogical Training Class in 1943 take the same lessons as in 1942.

Bearing in mind the shortage of paper and the difficulties involved in obtaining labour, it will be readily seen that material so comprehensive as that contained in the 1942 lessons can profitably be used again.

Most Saints already possess a copy of the 1942 lesson book, we can, however, supply from stock additional copies when required.

An Order Form covering all the Sunday School and Genealogical Lesson Books has already been sent to each branch, please return this completed form to us if you have not already done so, that we may know your requirements for 1943.

At intervals there will appear in the "Star" material dealing with practical research in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, this, too can with advantage be used as the basis of further lessons.

May we, as members of the Genealogical Board, express our thanks and gratitude in having the privilege in labouring in so great a cause as that of Salvation for the Dead.

May we have the some unity and zeal throughout 1943 from all who are labouring to prepare the Kingdom for the return of the Master, that in the day of His coming we may merit the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Mission Genealogical Board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - - - - Elder James R Cunningham
First Assistant - - - - - - Elder W. O. Chipping

PRELUDE:

First Line of Chorus, Song No. 73, Deseret Sunday School Songs.

SACRAMENT GEN.

'Twas Jesus died on Cavalry,
That all through Him might ransomed be;
Then sing Hosannas to His name:
Let heav'n and earth His love proclaim.

POSTLUDE:

Last Line of Chorus.

We have sought advice from the Deseret Sunday School Union Board, Salt Lake City, regarding our Lesson Books for 1943.

The General Board advise that we use in 1943 the lessons which were taken in 1941! we quote from their letter:—

"Your inquiry was discussed by the General Superintendency, who made the following decision: If you followed the 1941 Lessons in 1941 and the 1942 Lessons in 1942 in the Sunday School Departments in your Mission, then the General Superintendency advises you that you take up the 1941 Lessons in 1943. This is the plan that all the Sunday Schools in the Church are following. With the exception of two or three courses, all of the departments are repeating the 1941 Lessons in 1943."

Because of war restrictions, we are prevented from importing the books from U.S.A.; our own paper shortage and labour difficulties prevent us printing our own copies in England as we desire. Fortunately we have managed to gather together enough paper to duplicate a condensed form of the Lessons.

As a general rule we recommend that the pupils group into one of four classes shown with the course to be followed, below:—

Age Group.	Class.	Lesson Material.
4- 8	Primary	Duplicated lesson being prepared.
9-14	Junior	1941 Second Intermediate material being duplicated.
15-18	Senior	1940 Gospel Doctrine, of which we have a stock.
18 and over	Adults.	1942 Genealogical Training Class lessons repeated.

The cost of all lessons will be 1s. per copy.

In your own particular problems you may modify the plan slightly, under war conditions we cannot hope to attain our ideal of 100 per cent. uniform practice.

An Order Form showing the courses of study has already been sent to each branch; if you have not received yours, please notify us without delay.

May we again quote from the recent communication received from the General Superintendency:—

" The General Board of the Deseret Sunday School Union congratulate you good people on the excellent job you are doing in these disjointed times. Here at the office we have been following with interest the progress you have been making, through the " Millenial Star," which arrives here regularly. We would like to hear a word from you on how the work is progressing. I am sure that Superintendent Pyper would be most happy to publish in the " Instructor " a picture of one of your fine Sunday Schools in the British Mission. May the spirit of the Lord be your constant companion in the great work you are doing, is our fervent wish."

These words of encouragement will inspire us to render devotion with untiring zeal through the year of 1943. May we as united workers in the children's cause instill a doctrine of peace and love in their hearts that will help to finally establish peace in our own land.

Mission Sunday School Board.

M.I.A.

Y.M.M.I.A. Superintendent - - - Elder James P. Hill
Y.W.M.I.A. President - - - Sister Madeline E. Hill
Assistant - - - - - - - - Sister Louise Lawman
Executive Secretary - - - - Sister Alice Bickerstaff

1942 ebbs out slowly, and we look forward to a brighter year with some hope. The general atmosphere is one of renewed vigour and forward movement. It might be well, therefore, to review at this time, midway through our M.I.A. season almost, some of the points we have considered on these pages and in our bulletins.

1. How have you found the change in the programme—viz., the presentation of the Assembly programme at the end of the lesson instead of preceding it? If you have time to write and tell us, we should appreciate having your observations on this point.

2. From one point into another: Do try to carry out the programmes as suggested to you. We are sure you will find that the best way is always that given to us by our leaders.

3. We hope that you are presenting your Monthly Special Events according to schedule. Put every effort into making these affairs successes—right from the word GO! Don't just " do something " on the night chosen. Prepare for it! Rope in talent! Make it enjoyable, so that folks will want to come again.

4. Don't forget to ask new attenders if they would like to be put on your roll. Points are gained in the Branch Achievement Contest for increase in membership. The message of the Gospel gets to people this way too, remember. Show folks the Standards you uphold—introduce them to the best.

5. Are you checking up on that Achievement Programme? Are you presenting a perfect M.I.A. each meeting night? On time? and preceded by an Officers' meeting? If not, try it. You'll find it works out fine.

6. **Dues.** We would appreciate your sending them in as soon as you collect them.

You can have more membership cards just for the asking. We shall be glad to send them to you.

7. Dare we mention Reports? **Do** help us with this part of our work. Send them in to us by the Twentieth of each month. We should so much appreciate your co-operation in this. Thanks!

8. There are still some Community Activity manuals in the Bookstore. They would be of great value to you, we are sure. At half-price they are a bargain. A shilling's worth of the best. Get one, it will be an investment.

9. Regarding eligibility to Achieve Individually This is important. A PERSON MUST BE AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF AN M.I.A. AND MUST HAVE PAID THE REQUIRED DUE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION IN THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAMME. THE ACHIEVEMENTS ARE TO BE RECORDED ON THE MEMBERSHIP CARD IN THE SPACES PROVIDED. THEY ARE DESIGNED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Regarding whether members may be termed such if they have not paid dues: Some folks may not wish to have their names PLACED ON THE ROLL BECAUSE OF THEIR INABILITY TO ATTEND REGULARLY. THAT MUST BE LEFT TO THE INDIVIDUAL TO DECIDE. OF THOSE THAT ARE PLACED ON THE ROLL, POINTS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR ALL ENROLLED MEMBERS IN CONNECTION WITH ATTENDANCE. EXTRA POINTS ARE GAINED IF ALL OR MAJORITY OF ENROLLED MEMBERS PAY THEIR DUES. THAT IS UP TO THE LOCAL LEADERS. ACCORDING TO THE PERCENTAGE OF DUES OBTAINED, SO YOUR CLAIM TO THE BANNER AWARD WILL BE ENHANCED. GO TO IT!

10. Finally, the Programme for the First night in January. In a few days the Board will issue a Bulletin comprising the Programme and the Winning Essay in the Literary Competition announced a month or so back. Watch for it!

M.I.A. FOR EVER! LET'S GO TO MUTUAL!

PRIMARY

Acting Supervisor: Edna Gardner.

He talked of grass and wind and rain
And fig trees and fair weather
And made it His delight to bring
Heaven and earth together.
He spoke oflilies, vines and corn,
The sparrow and the raven,
And words so natural, yet so wise,
Were on men's hearts engraven.

PRIMARY WORKERS AND CHILDREN—HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

At this time of the year thoughts are turned to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to make each other happy, we give tokens of love to our friends and loved ones. The Lord told us to go further than this: to give good gifts to those who cannot repay us and from whom we cannot hope for reward. If we do this, we do it unto Him. Read Matt. 25: 34-46.

Winter is fast approaching. Most of the leaves are off the trees and, perhaps, soon we shall have snow. The birds have migrated to a warmer clime, but the earth is not dead, it just sleeps. The snow will act as a blanket and keep the ground warm. Why do some trees, like the Evergreen, keep their leaves? Let the children name the trees that keep their leaves all the year round.

L.D.S. DISTRICT PRESIDENTS IN BRITAIN

Birmingham:
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79, Oak Road,
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Bristol:
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Ford Estate,
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L.D.S. BRANCH PRESIDENTS IN BRITAIN—(continued)

LONDON DISTRICT

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Varteg:
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